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XVIII.—*On the Ornithology of Cyprus.*—Part III.

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SINCE the publication of the two prior instalments of this paper my attention has kindly been drawn by Victor, Ritter von Tschusi zu Schmidhoffen, to a not unimportant article on Cypriote Ornithology which seems to have hitherto escaped notice. This article is by Herr G. Schrader and appeared in the 'Ornithologisches Jahrbuch' of December, 1891. It forms the second part of a paper entitled 'Ornithologische Beobachtungen auf meinen Sammelreisen,' and purports to give an account of the birds observed and taken by the author during a visit to Cyprus between October 3rd, 1876, and April 3rd, 1878.

It appears fairly clear from certain of the data that the author must be the collector whose consignments were despatched to Schlüter, while some of them were examined by Herr August Müller, who published his account of them in 1879 (*vide* 'The Ibis,' 1909, p. 576). Schrader's paper mentions 146 species, and it is somewhat remarkable that he includes several birds which apparently did not reach Müller and which have not been recorded from the island by any other observer.

* Continued from above, p. 47. The numbers in front of the names are those of Dresser's 'Manual of Palearctic Birds.'

I have thought it best to incorporate in this—the third and last instalment of my paper such of Schrader's notes as can conveniently be included, and have added short particulars of the few species for the addition of which to the Cypriote list he is solely responsible, and which would in ordinary sequence have appeared in the two prior parts.

The remarks in Schrader's paper, which are interesting and useful, do not bear evidence of close accuracy, but contain several obvious mistakes and a certain amount of information the correctness of which I am inclined to doubt.

776. PHALACROCORAX CARBO (Linn.).

Sibthorp included the Cormorant in his list as *Pelecanus carbo* and it reappears in Unger and Kotschy's as *Carbo Cormoranus* Meyer. Schrader states that it sometimes appears in winter.

No specimens were obtained by Lord Lilford or his collectors, though Guillemard mentions "a pair of Cormorants" which he watched through his telescope off Cape Gata. Lord Lilford was inclined to think that the Shag was the only species of this genus to be found in Cyprus, but Madarász rightly points out that the Cormorant is not an improbable winter visitor. The only specimen obtained up to the present of which I am aware is a female taken by Glaszner on November 16th, 1902, near Larnaca and despatched to Madarász. Horsbrugh and I saw an old male on the wing close to the pier at Limassol on February 8th, 1910, and two days later Horsbrugh noticed four or five at Cape Gata.

781. PHALACROCORAX GRACULUS (Linn.).

The Shag is a resident and breeds, though not in any large numbers, in a few suitable places round the coast. It is sometimes seen on the fresh-water reservoirs.

Lord Lilford occasionally observed it in pairs or singly off the south coast in April or May, 1875, and through Guillemard received from Capt. (now Sir Arthur) Young—then Commissioner of Famagusta—in January 1889, an immature specimen. I heard of it near Kyrenia at the end of October 1908, from Major Bolton, Commissioner of that District;

and on November the 23rd, 1908, Mr. Jebb shot an immature bird at Koukليا reservoir. Mr. Nicolls found it nesting in small numbers on the Klides Islands at the extreme north-east point of Cyprus, and Horsbrugh on the 25th of April, 1909, discovered about fifteen pairs breeding on an islet close to Kyrenia and shot an immature male.

785. PELECANUS ONOCROTALUS Linn.

Guillemard in his list of Cypriote birds compiled in conjunction with Lord Lilford for the use of the latter in his 'Ibis' paper, states that "both species" of Pelican occur in Cyprus. Schrader states that he once, in November, saw a single specimen on a small lake.

Lord Lilford thought that the Roseate Pelican was at least as common as the Dalmatian in Cyprus, and was assured by the peasants that the "Ass-headed Swans" visiting the salt-lakes in winter were as white as the snow on Troödos. However, I am not aware that any specimen of the Roseate species has been actually obtained, though 'Pelicans' are common on the salt-lakes in the winter months and are sometimes seen on the freshwater reservoirs.

787. PELECANUS CRISPUS Bruch.

Lord Lilford refers under the heading of the Dalmatian Pelican to Tristram's remarks in Dresser's 'Birds of Europe' vol. vi. p. 200 (*vide infra*).

Guillemard includes the bird, as before stated, in his rough list, though he mentions neither of the two species in his 'Ibis' articles.

Dresser in his 'Manual of Palæarctic Birds,' vol. ii. p. 563, describes the plumage of this bird from an adult male taken at Limassol in 1863, which was in Canon Tristram's collection, but I do not notice any "remarks" by the latter in the text of Dresser's larger work.

Glaszner on November the 14th, 1908, shewed me an immature bird taken at the Larnaca salt-lake and had another brought to him in the flesh from the same locality on the previous day. On the 23rd of the same month Mr. Jebb

sent me another nearly mature bird which he had shot at the Kouklia reservoir on that day.

788. *ARDEA CINEREA* Linn.

I am not aware that the Grey Heron—or indeed any Heron—breeds in Cyprus, but this fact is probably due to the absence of suitable situations.

Hérons are, therefore, practically unknown in the island except as migrants in spring and autumn, though a few probably remain during the winter. The present species was recognised by Sibthorp. Lord Lilford and his collectors do not seem to have obtained a specimen, but the former states that the bird is occasionally observed though not abundant, and Guillemard noticed it near Larnaca in early April, 1887. Schrader met with it not uncommonly on the spring migration. Glaszner sent Madarász a specimen taken on June the 30th, 1901, from which the latter surmises that this species breeds in the island.

Mr. Jebb found three birds at Acheritou on August the 30th, 1908; Horsbrugh saw two on March the 23rd, 1909, and a single individual six days later at the same place, while he obtained with Mr. Baxendale a very juvenile specimen near Papho on May the 23rd; they also saw a single bird on the sea-shore near Famagusta on January the 11th, 1910, and four days later Mr. Baxendale and I observed another on the freshwater lake not far from the same town. We also found many later in the spring in the same locality.

789. *ARDEA PURPUREA* Linn.

The Purple Heron is also in Sibthorp's list. Lord Lilford found it very common in the marshes in April and May and frequently noticed it in the wheat-fields. Schrader met with it on the spring migration, and Müller mentions an adult pair taken in the spring. Guillemard obtained an example at the very end of March 1888, near Larnaca. This species does not seem to have been met with by Glaszner.

Horsbrugh found it in some numbers at the Acheritou and Kouklia reservoirs from March the 28th to April the 20th,

1909, and obtained several specimens, while on May the 9th of the same year he observed a skin hanging up in the Mukhtar's house at Kambos, in the hills, which he was informed was that of a bird shot not long before in the neighbourhood. We also obtained it in early April 1910 at the Famagusta reservoirs.

791. *ARDEA ALBA* Linn.

Sibthorp includes the Great White Egret or Heron in his list and writes in his journal that he shot a specimen near Famagusta on the morning of April 18th (1787).

Lord Lilford and his collectors did not meet with it, but the former was told by his Spanish companion, who was well acquainted with all the common marsh birds of Andalusia, that he had seen on April the 15th (1875) at the Limassol salt-lake three snow-white Herons at least twice the size of the Little Egret, with which he was very familiar.

Schrader writes that it occurs, but very rarely, on migration.

I am not aware of any other local record.

794. *ARDEA GARZETTA* Linn.

Lord Lilford frequently met with the Little Egret and obtained it in the south of Cyprus, while he noticed one flying over his yacht in Episkopi Bay on April the 15th, 1875—the day he arrived at the island. Schrader states that it arrives about March the 23rd on passage but is very rare. Guillemard seems only to have noticed it near Famagusta on April the 26th, 1887.

Several "pure white small Herons" were reported on April the 28th, 1909, from the Acheritou reservoir by Mr. A. Douglas, which most probably belonged to this species.

795. *ARDEA IBIS* Linn.

Ardea bubulcus Audouin, B. O. U. List, p. 109.

The Buff-backed Heron was thought by Lord Lilford to be the most common member of the genus *Ardea* met with by him in Cyprus during his visit, and he mentions that his yacht was "boarded" by three shortly after the island had been sighted, on April the 14th (1875). Schrader observed this

species on April the 27th and again in August, 1877; Müller mentions an adult male taken in spring; Guillemard came across the bird in early April 1888, near Larnaca, and at the end of that month near Famagusta; Glaszner sent Madarász three examples obtained in the latter half of the same month.

797. *ARDEA RALLOIDES* Scop.

Lord Lilford found the Squacco Heron tolerably frequent during his visit; Schrader observed some on September the 11th, 1877; Müller records an adult pair taken in spring; Guillemard met with the bird in precisely the same localities and on the same dates as the preceding species, and Glaszner sent two males to Madarász taken near Larnaca on April the 10th and May the 6th. I received a male from Mr. Barrett shot at Athalassa near Nicosia on March the 24th, 1909. Horsbrugh met with a few birds at Acheritou during his stay and obtained a male on the 9th and another on the 10th of April (1909). Mr. A. Douglas sent me a fine male, shot at the Acheritou reservoir, on May the 7th, and Mr. Baxendale came across two individuals near Papho about the same date.

800. *NYCTICORAX GRISEUS* (Linn.).

The Night Heron was observed by Sibthorp. Lord Lilford did not think it very abundant, but saw it on several occasions and obtained it at Limassol. Schrader noticed it on March the 10th, but thought it rare. It does not appear to have been mentioned by Guillemard in his 'Ibis' articles; but Glaszner sent to Madarász four specimens taken near Larnaca in March, April, and May, and shewed me a male in his possession from the same neighbourhood. Horsbrugh obtained an immature male at Kouklia reservoir on April the 9th, 1909; an adult male frequented the large tank (which contains many fishes) in my garden at Nicosia for some hours on April the 13th in the same year; Mr. Baxendale and Horsbrugh shot a very juvenile specimen on May the 23rd in some reed-beds near Paphos, and the former secured a fine young male out of a flock of six near the same place on October the 8th.

803. *ARDETTA MINUTA* (Linn.).

The Little Bittern was also recognised by Sibthorp. Lord Lilford thought it common at the latter end of April and beginning of May, and believed that it bred in a certain locality near Limassol as well as in other parts of the island. Schrader met with it in small numbers at the end of April and at the end of August, 1877. It was noticed by Guillemard on May the 20th, 1888, near Famagusta, and Glaszner shewed me a male obtained near Larnaca on May the 4th, 1905. Mr. Baxendale sent me up one which he had shot near Papho on April the 20th, 1909; Mr. C. Noble, with Horsbrugh, observed a specimen on a little marsh near Karavostasi on May the 9th, 1909, and on May the 18th the latter found what he thought was probably a nest of this species in a large bush overhanging a stream in the Papho district. Mr. G. F. Wilson secured a female at Larnaca on October the 17th. This species is evidently a visitor at the migration seasons, and perhaps occasionally nests in Cyprus.

807. *BOTAURUS STELLARIS* (Linn.).

The Bittern was obtained by Guillemard once only, namely near Famagusta on May 20th, 1888. Glaszner sent a male to Madarász, taken on November the 29th, 1902, and shewed me a female obtained near Larnaca on January the 24th, 1905. The bird is known to Mr. Nicolls as an occasional winter visitor, and he shot three in a very secluded marsh in the Famagusta district on March the 14th, 1908. Mr. Baxendale shot two at Avgasida Marsh on December the 26th, 1909; a female on January the 12th, and a male on February the 20th, 1910, all in the Famagusta neighbourhood. Captain F. W. Wright, of the Army Service Corps, sent to Horsbrugh a fine female shot at the Limassol salt-lake on February the 13th, 1910.

809. *CICONIA ALBA* Bechst.

The White Stork is not a common visitor on its spring and autumn migrations, though it is incorrect to assert, as has been recently done, that it never occurs in the island. Still, there can be no doubt that its main line of migration

in the eastern basin of the Mediterranean follows the coast of the Levant. I should think that it is extremely probable that the birds "not unlike ducks, but with a pointed beak, which eat the locusts and thus lessen their ravages," referred to by Cornelis van Bruyn in 1683, as from time to time visiting Cyprus, were of this species. Lord Lilford observed a large flock coming in to land from the south near Galinoporni in the extreme north-east of the island on April 26th, 1875. Schrader states that he saw the nest in Nicosia, but I have hardly any doubt that this is a mistake. Miss Bate observed three birds on October 27th, 1901, near Kouklia reservoir, standing in some cotton-fields, and Horsbrugh, on the 30th March, 1909, saw a single individual at the same place. This species does not seem to have been met with by any one else.

812. *PLATALEA LEUCORODIA* Linn.

Schrader states that the Spoonbill is occasionally met with, and Müller mentions an adult male taken on November 1st (1877-8). I am not aware of any other record of its having been obtained in the island, but Mr. A. K. Bovill informs me that it has been observed near Famagusta.

818. *PLEGADIS FALCINELLUS* (Linn.).

The Glossy Ibis was not identified with certainty by Lord Lilford on his visit to the island, but there is no doubt that it is a regular and not very uncommon visitor on its spring and autumn migrations. Schrader writes that he observed several flights in April and August, 1877. Müller mentions an adult pair obtained in spring; Sir Samuel Baker, who visited Cyprus in 1880, records shooting an example on the freshwater lake near Famagusta; Guillemard, on his first visit, found small flocks of a dozen or fifteen individuals near Larnaca in mid-April, while he records the bird as numerous near Famagusta at the beginning of the same month in 1888, and obtained specimens. Horsbrugh saw about a dozen on the 9th of April, 1909, at the Acheritou reservoir, and obtained from there through Mr. Douglas a fine male and female on the 19th of the same month.

819. PHENICOPTERUS ROSEUS Pall.

The Flamingo is a common visitor in the winter to the large salt-lakes of Limassol and Larnaca, and, although records of its having been shot are rare, owing to its wary habits, it can be observed at times in very large numbers. Lord Lilford received a specimen from Pearse, without data, but killed, no doubt, near Larnaca, in the winter of 1878-9, but the bird does not seem to have been obtained by Guillemard or Glaszner. Schrader regarded it as an extremely rare bird of passage only. It is very well known, however, to the residents in the two towns above-mentioned, and I have a note of a slightly wounded individual being taken alive during the spring of 1909 on the Limassol Lake. Passing through Larnaca in the first days of March 1909, Horsbrugh noticed large numbers at the salt-lake there. I have no note of an occurrence at the fresh-water reservoirs, but Mr. Greenwood informs me that at Papho he has seen several killed by flying against the lighthouse. Mr. Michell, the Commissioner of Limassol, informs me that, though extremely common, they almost invariably keep towards the centre of the lake, well out of gun-shot. In January 1910, Horsbrugh and I found a flock of some four hundred at the Larnaca salt lake, and Mr. T. Greenwood kindly obtained for us two fine mature and two immature specimens, one of the latter being alive and living for some time in captivity. In February 1910, at Limassol salt-lake, Horsbrugh also met with very large flocks.

820. ANSER FERUS Schaeff.

It is, perhaps, convenient here to make a few observations upon the Anatidæ in general in relation to the island.

About the middle of October large flights of Ducks commence to arrive in Cyprus; many almost immediately pass further south, but some establish themselves on the lakes, reservoirs, and other suitable localities for the winter. As the weather grows colder in the north more and more stream in, accompanied by Geese and sometimes by Swans, and from November until the return migration—which takes place in

March and April—is over, huge numbers of birds of this Family may be observed on the larger sheets of water. In the spring these winter residents, joining ranks again with the army now moving north, soon disappear, and in June, July and August it would puzzle most people to find a single Duck in the island. It may seem remarkable that so very few remain during the summer, but the fact is that there are no very suitable localities for Ducks to breed in; the freshwater reservoirs and lakes are, as a rule, dry, either from drainage off of the water or from natural causes, and their banks are bare and afford little, if any, suitable cover; the salt-lakes are no better than a slush of brine, and the streams, with very few exceptions, are exhausted or diverted at the higher levels for domestic or agricultural purposes. An interesting document kindly placed at my disposal by Mr. Michell, the Commissioner of Limassol, well exemplifies the disappearance of water-fowl in summer: it is a daily record for nearly a year (from March 10th–November 20th, 1908) of the birds observed at the great Limassol salt-lake, kept, at request, by the salt-guard, an intelligent Cypriote minor official. Out of hundreds of entries, most of which relate to Swans, Geese, Ducks, and Cranes, the last summer note is on June 8th “a very few ducks,” and from thence onward, with the one exception of July 18th, “four ducks,” there is no record of any of the Anatidæ until September 18th when “ducks” again appear in the journal, and continue daily to the conclusion of the diary.

Some of the local Greek names used by this official—the record being kept in Greek—are rather unintelligible, but “Παπῆρες” “Βαρβαρόχηνες,” “Γερανοί,” “Εποπες,” “Κουβούδες,” “Ορτύκια,” “Πεκατζόνες,” and “Μελισσοφάγοι” are easily recognisable as “Ducks,” “Wild Geese,” “Cranes,” “Hoopoes,” “Wild Swans,” “Quails” “Snipe,” and “Bee-eaters.”

Notwithstanding the great abundance of the Duck tribe in winter, definite records of the rarer species have been, hitherto, meagre. Sibthorp mentions the Mallard, the Garganey, and another species unknown to him which he called

"*Anas cyprica*." Unger and Kotschy add the Grey Lag Goose only. Lord Lilford identified none except the Marbled Duck, while Pearse did not send him a single specimen. Schrader, however, mentions the Mute Swan, Common and Ruddy Sheldrake, Shoveler, Pintail, Wigeon, Teal, and Tufted Duck, in addition to those already recorded. Müller changes Sibthorp's and Unger and Kotschy's Garganey to the Teal (very likely correctly). Glaszner, at any rate up to the appearance of Madarász's paper in 1904, had sent the latter nothing but the Teal. Guillemard added the Gadwall, Pochard, White-eyed Duck, and Scoter.

Our own records have, I am glad to say, amplified and confirmed previous observations very considerably.

The Grey Lag Goose is a winter visitor in considerable numbers, particularly in severe weather. It was first mentioned by Unger and Kotschy, and is stated by Schrader to occur in small numbers in winter on the lakes. Müller refers to a young male shot on November 25th; Guillemard mentions having seen "Geese" near Larnaca on one occasion, but does not seem to have ever identified any. On November 17th, 1907, and in January 1908, I saw at the reservoirs between two and three hundred Geese which were probably chiefly of this species. On the 21st of November, 1908, Mr. Jebb reported their appearance in the same locality again. In December 1908, a large flight visited the estuary of a river near Papho, and Hadji Dimitri—an excellent sportsman, and Mukhtar of a village called Kouklia—obtained four at one shot, and sent them to Mr. T. Greenwood. One of these was given to Mr. Baxendale, who also at about the same time saw a wounded bird, no doubt from the same gaggle. Mr. Nicolls, in the middle of February 1909, shot another at Acheritou, but on Horsbrugh's arrival at the reservoirs on March the 23rd all the Geese had disappeared. Wild Geese occur also in considerable numbers on the salt-lakes, but they are only differentiated by the salt-guard who kept the diary, as "Black" and "White-spotted." However, even from this meagre detail, one can gather quite clearly that no Geese

are to be found there after the beginning of April, while they do not re-appear until the beginning of November.

821. *ANSER FABALIS* (Lath.).

Anser segetum Gmelin, B. O. U. List, p. 115.

Although the Bean Goose is probably not an infrequent visitor to the island in winter, it has hardly ever been identified. Mr. Nicolls obtained a single specimen in December 1904, near Famagusta. I stalked and shot at a solitary bird on the 7th of December, 1908, in the marsh on the coast at Morphou, and as it was in an open flat, and I had it under observation at a range of about sixty yards with my glasses for quite twenty minutes, vainly watching for it to walk closer to the rushes in which I was concealed, there could be no doubt as to its identity. It came in from the sea, there being a strong gale blowing at the time, and when I shot at it, disappeared inland.

829. *BRANTA BERNICLA* (Linn.).

Bernicla brenta, B. O. U. List, p. 117.

Black Geese, some of which are certainly Brent, visit the waters of Cyprus in some numbers during the winter, and the salt-guard's diary at Limassol Lake contains numerous entries between November and March of "*χήνες μάντροι.*" Cobham, in his 'Hand-book of Cyprus,' 1907, states that this species is to be seen in the marshes in the winter. My only definite record, although I have more than once seen parties of Geese at a distance on the sea which I have very little doubt were Brent, is of a specimen which was shot at Kyrenia in December 1908, and identified by Major Bolton, the Commissioner of that district, who is well acquainted with the species.

836. *CYGNUS OLOR* (Gmel.).

Wild Swans regularly visit the reservoirs and salt-lakes in winter, but not, as a rule, in any numbers. Schrader states that he met with two birds of this species in the winter of 1876-7 near Larnaca. The salt-guard's diary contains notes of two Swans which seem to have frequented

the Limassol Lake from March the 10th to the 26th, while on the 5th of November, 1908, sixteen Swans were observed at Acheritou ; one of these was shot at Kouklia, and, judging from the description given to me, was probably an immature bird of this species. Swans were also seen on the reservoirs in 1909, but the only definitely identified specimen which, so far as I am aware, has been recorded, is one of the Mute Swan, obtained by Guillemard in mid-April, 1887, on a lake near Larnaca, out of a party of three, which he had seen at that place on several occasions.

It is said that the Mute Swan was introduced into England by Richard Cœur-de-Lion by specimens sent from Cyprus, but I do not know on what authority the story rests.

CHENALOPEX ÆGYPTIACUS (Linn.).

I am not at all sure what business the Egyptian Goose has in Cyprus, but I am not aware that it is kept in captivity in the island. During the past four years two or three have regularly haunted the water courses near Nicosia, arriving in the first days of December and leaving about the first week in March. The dates of arrival and departure have been carefully kept by Mr. G. F. Wilson, and are as follows :—

Arrival.	Departure.
2 December, 1906.	3 March, 1907.
1 „ 1907.	15 „ 1908.
29 November, 1908.	7 „ 1909.

They are very wary.

On April 8th, 1909, Horsbrugh, who is well acquainted with the bird in South Africa, saw two at the Kouklia reservoir which he identified with absolute certainty.

839. *TADORNA CORNUTA* (S. G. Gmel.).

The Common or Burrow Sheldrake is a winter visitor, though apparently not abundant. It is mentioned by Schrader as occurring in small flights in winter.

Guillemard met with it near Famagusta at the beginning of February 1887, and obtained it at Kouklia marsh at the end of that month. Mr. Nicolls has shot it at Acheritou

once or twice in winter, but otherwise none of us have come across it yet.

840. *TADORNA CASARCA* (Linn.).

Lord Lilford did not meet with the Ruddy Sheldrake himself, but was positively assured that it bred in the Papho district. Schrader states that it occurs in winter and is rather more common than the preceding species. Guillemard, who states that it is not an uncommon bird in Cyprus, met with it in a marsh in Avgasida, not very far from Salamis, on about the 9th of March, 1888, and afterwards obtained it through his "shikari" in the Famagusta marshes.

Mr. T. Greenwood sent me a fine female shot near Larnaca on February the 24th, 1910.

842. *ANAS BOSCAS* Linn.

The Wild Duck or Mallard is a very common winter visitor, and, though occurring in large flocks on the big sheets of water, is well enough scattered over the smaller waters to offer more chances of sport than any other Duck, except perhaps the Teal: a very few undoubtedly stay all the summer.

844. *CHAULELASMUS STREPERUS* (Linn.).

Up to the present the Gadwall has been included in the list solely on account of its name being written by Guillemard in the rough catalogue compiled by him in conjunction with Lord Lilford for the latter's use, but Lord Lilford did not meet with it, and no specimen was obtained by Guillemard, who does not mention it in his 'Ibis' articles.

In the middle of February 1909, Mr. Nicolls shot a single specimen at Acheritou. Horsbrugh found three or four couples—paired—at the end of March 1909, at the same reservoir, and on the 23rd obtained a fine male there.

845. *SPATULA CLYPEATA* (Linn.).

The Shoveler is not at all an uncommon winter visitor. Schrader, however, called it uncommon. Guillemard met

with it on a lake near Famagusta in early February, 1888, at Kouklia marsh at the end of the same month, and again as late as May the 20th in the same year, close to Famagusta. Mr. Jebb noted its first arrival at the reservoirs on October the 6th, 1908, when he obtained four specimens; it has frequently been shot during winter by Mr. Nicolls and other sportsmen, and at Acheritou, at the end of March, Horsbrugh noticed some twenty couples—paired—and shot several specimens. During December 1909 and January 1910, Mr. Baxendale, Horsbrugh and I obtained quite a number of examples from various localities.

846. MARMARONETTA ANGUSTIROSTRIS (Ménétr.).

Sibthorp included in his list an unidentified species under the name *Anas cypria* and gave as its local name the Greek “Παπερό ψάρο.”

Lord Lilford stated that he had some reason to believe that this name (which appeared unaltered in Unger and Kotschy's list) was intended to refer to the Marbled Duck; but no reason is given for this view and I regret that I can find nothing definite to support it. However, Lord Lilford recognised a small flight of Marbled Duck on the shores of Episkopi Bay on April 15th, 1875, and his yacht-captain shot a female near Limassol early in May, which evidently had a nest. Guillemard obtained this duck near Larnaca on April the 8th, 1888, and took its nest and eggs near Famagusta later in the same year. The only personal record I have concerning it is that I bought three examples in Limassol bazaar on February the 9th, 1909.

848. QUERQUEDULA CIRCIA (Linn.).

Sibthorp included the Garganey in his list, and it reappeared in that of Unger and Kotschy. Müller, perhaps rightly, replaced it by the Teal. Guillemard, who met with it at the beginning of April near Famagusta, regarded it as fairly common, though a migrant on passage only. At the end of March and beginning of April, 1909, Horsbrugh found a few pairs at both the Acheritou and Kouklia reservoirs, and obtained specimens in both localities.

850. *NETTION CRECCA* (Linn.).

Querquedula crecca, B. O. U. List, p. 127.

The Teal is an abundant winter visitor, arriving towards the middle of October and leaving towards the end of March or beginning of April. It occurs in large flocks on the big sheets of water, but is also well distributed in other suitable localities. During his visit to the reservoirs, at the end of March and beginning of April, 1909, Horsbrugh found the Teal the most common Duck and still in small parties.

853. *DAFILA ACUTA* (Linn.).

The Pintail is a common winter visitor. Schrader, however, described it as rare. It was met with by Guillemard on a lake close to Famagusta in early February 1888, and at the end of the same month at Koukليا marsh. It has often been shot in winter by Mr. Nicolls and others. A large flight was noticed by Mr. T. Greenwood at Papho on March the 6th, 1909, and a day or two afterwards he obtained an individual which, being only winged, he kept in captivity for a long time; he informs me that this was a migrating flock, and that the birds are never seen in that neighbourhood for more than a few days at these seasons. At the end of March Horsbrugh found the Pintail fairly numerous at Acheritou and Koukليا reservoirs and, as a rule, paired; he noticed at the former water some fifteen or twenty couples, and at the latter only three or four pairs. During December 1909, and January and February 1910, Mr. Baxendale, Mr. Nicolls, Horsbrugh and I obtained several specimens.

854. *MARECA PENELOPE* (Linn.).

The Wigeon is in my opinion undoubtedly the most abundant Duck that visits the island. It is an exceedingly common winter guest, and forms a large proportion of the birds which fall to the gun near the reservoirs and lakes. Schrader refers to it as an uncommon winter migrant. Guillemard came across it in early January, 1888, near the Limassol salt-lake, and near

Famagusta in early February. From the first snap of coldish weather up to at any rate the beginning of March, thousands are to be seen at Acheritou and Koukليا. On November the 17th, 1907, at Koukليا, and on January the 15th, 1908, at Acheritou, I must have seen, at a very moderate estimate, five thousand in the air together, but except for an occasional chance shot they are usually unapproachable. In the marshy ground near the salt-lakes, and where there is some cover, very fair bags are sometimes made. Horsbrugh at the end of March, 1909, found very few remaining on the reservoirs, only about six pairs. I have frequently bought examples of this species in the markets, and it is well known to all local sportsmen.

857. *ÆTHYIA FERINA* (Linn.).

Fuligula ferina, B. O. U. List, p. 130.

The Pochard is a tolerably common winter visitor but is, no doubt, not distinguished from the Wigeon by most local sportsmen. It was not mentioned by Guillemard in his 'Ibis' articles, but he brought back a female taken near Famagusta on March 16th, 1888. Mr. Nicolls tells me that he has obtained it on the reservoirs in winter; and Horsbrugh, at the end of March 1909, found it in fair numbers at Acheritou and Koukليا, noticing about twenty-five couples in all—paired—and obtaining several specimens. I shot an old male at Koukليا on December the 27th, 1909, out of a flock of twelve, and on the 17th of January, 1910, Mr. A. Douglas sent Mr. Baxendale another drake shot at Acheritou on the previous day.

859. *ÆTHYIA FULIGULA* (Linn.).

Fuligula cristata, B. O. U. List, p. 129.

The Tufted Duck is a common winter visitor. Schrader states that it is uncommon. Müller mentions a young male taken on October the 28th. Guillemard seems only to have once come across the bird, obtaining it in Koukليا marsh in the beginning of March 1888; but it is well enough known to, and sometimes shot, by Mr. Nicolls and other sportsmen on the reservoirs.

I bought a male and two females in the Larnaca market on November the 6th, 1908; Mr. Nicolls shot a male at Acheritou in mid-February, 1909, and from the 23rd of March till the 2nd of April, when he left the neighbourhood, Horsbrugh saw quite a number on the Acheritou and Koukليا reservoirs, chiefly in pairs; he counted about fifteen couples at the former place and six pairs at the latter, and obtained several birds on both sheets of water.

We have shot several specimens this winter (1909-1910).

860. *ÆTHYIA NYROCA* (Güld.).

Nyroca ferruginea, B. O. U. List, p. 130.

Guillemard seems only to have met with the White-eyed Duck once, when he obtained it in Koukليا marsh in the beginning of March 1888, apparently at the same time as the preceding species. It is, however, evidently not uncommon, as we obtained several specimens during the winter; a female bought in the Famagusta market on January 19th; a female shot by Mr. A. Douglas at Acheritou on the 21st; a pair shot by Mr. Nicolls at Acheritou on the 23rd; a female bought in the Famagusta market on February 1st; and a male was seen by Horsbrugh at Limassol salt-lake on February 5th, 1910. We shot both varieties of the female.

862. *CLANGULA GLAUCION* (Linn.).

I am pleased to be able to add the Golden-Eye to the list of the Ducks of Cyprus.

Horsbrugh obtained a female at Koukليا reservoir on April 9th, 1909. It appeared to be in transition plumage, and at first puzzled us, but was subsequently identified by the late Dr. Bowdler Sharpe.

869. *ÆDESMIA NIGRA* (Linn.).

At the end of March 1888, Guillemard saw a Scoter, which he was almost certain was of this species, near the sea not far from Famagusta. Madarász, however, considers that it was probably the Velvet Scoter (*Ædesmia fusca*).

On February 7th, 1908, I saw three Scoters at the mouth of a small river near Papho, but they were too wary for

me. I know of no specimen of any Scoter having been actually shot.

883. *COLUMBA LIVIA* Bonn.

The Rock-Dove is a common resident in suitable localities. Where the cliffs are high by the sea it occurs in large numbers, as well as inland amongst the mountains, while even in convenient places in the plains it may frequently be seen.

We took a pair of fresh eggs as early as March the 20th, but I have notes of eggs as late as May the 7th. This Pigeon nests in Cyprus in ancient ruined vaults, and even in old deep-cut wells.

887. *COLUMBA ŒNAS* Linn.

The status of the Stock-Dove in Cyprus is very unsatisfactory. Sibthorp did not include it in his list, though he did catalogue the Rock-Dove as *Columba rupestris*. Unger and Kotschy refer to *C. œnas* Linn., and not to *C. rupestris*, but I have little doubt that this is merely a case of intentional change of nomenclature and not of substitution. Müller, who received specimens and eggs of the Rock-Dove only, points out, for reasons which he gives in some detail, that it is clear that by the *C. œnas* of Unger and Kotschy is meant the Rock-Dove.

The only record of the Stock-Dove in Cyprus of which I am aware is that of Lord Lilford, who states that he saw a pair of these birds near Trikhomo; but he adds that as they were some way off it is possible that they were Wood-Pigeons.

892. *COLUMBA PALUMBUS* Linn.

The Ring-Dove or Wood-Pigeon was mentioned by Sibthorp, but was not observed by Lord Lilford. Guillemard, however, met with it in June 1887, and January 1888, though he writes of it as if it appeared to be uncommon. Glaszner does not seem to have sent Madarász any specimens. I have found this bird quite common on the southern range, where, as probably in some other wooded districts, it is a resident, though according to my observations

its numbers are somewhat increased by winter visitors which arrive in the autumn. I found a good many on my arrival at the Troödos summer-station in the beginning of July, and they are sufficiently numerous to afford a little sport. In May and June Horsbrugh came across this species fairly frequently in his tour through the hills and obtained several specimens. I have examined the crops of over a dozen, shot during August and September, and found the contents to consist largely of the seeds of the coniferous trees with which the southern range is covered, but also some barley.

895. *TURTUR COMMUNIS* Selby.

The Turtle-Dove is a very abundant visitor on the spring and autumn migrations, and a considerable number—though small compared with the large numbers of birds of passage—remain for the summer, and nest in the mountains. The spring migration commences about mid-April and lasts approximately a month; the autumn movement takes place from towards the end of August till the commencement of October. In some years the bird occurs in enormous numbers; Lord Lilford considered it more abundant in Cyprus than in any other part of the world which he had visited, and Guillemard records a single flock of six or seven hundred. I found some numbers on Troödos on my arrival there on July 1st, 1908, and from that locality Mr. Nicolls sent me fresh eggs taken on June 10th, 1909. The bird was included in Sibthorp's list. In mid-September, during the migration, I have seen dozens exposed for sale, both dead and alive, in the Limassol bazaar: they are both shot and "limed" for the table.

899. *TURTUR DECACTO* (Frivaldsky).

The Collared Turtle-Dove was included by Sibthorp in his list. Lord Lilford noticed one or two individuals in the streets of Larnaca, and it seems to have been observed by Guillemard.

There are always a few to be seen in the town of Nicosia,

where I find they are very familiar and tame, frequenting the old secluded Turkish gardens of which so many exist inside the walls. Mr. G. F. Wilson informs me that this species occurs in other towns in the island. It is certainly a resident, but in Cyprus, as I understand is the case in other places, seems to dwell only in inhabited areas in an almost semi-feral state.

900. *TURTUR SENEGALENSIS* (Linn.).

Horsbrugh and I found the Senegal Turtle-Dove in small numbers—in parties of three or four—on the Government farm at Athalassa, near Nicosia, at the beginning of May 1909. The locality is covered with young wattle and eucalyptus trees, and is well suited to the bird's habits. Perhaps I need hardly add that after five years' residence in Pretoria I am most intimately acquainted with this species, and as Horsbrugh knows it in South Africa as well as I do, there could be no possible doubt as to its identity.

904. *PTEROCLES ARENARIUS* (Pall.).

It is unfortunate that, though Sand-Grouse are at times abundant in the Mesaoria plains, very little is yet known as to the number of species which actually visit or live in the island. Sand-Grouse are well known to the English sportsmen in Cyprus. They are extremely wary and shy, but a few are bagged every year in the autumn.

Mr. G. F. Wilson, who has shot a large number, considers that three species of *Pterocles* occur in Cyprus: no doubt *P. arenarius* and *P. alchata*, and perhaps *P. exustus*, though until further definite information is forthcoming it is, of course, impossible to speak with certainty, except as to the two former species.

I have, hitherto, only been able to identify the Black-bellied Sand-Grouse (*P. arenarius*). Miss Bate procured an immature male in the Nicosia bazaar in November 1901, and picked up some feathers belonging to this species in the plains not far from that town. Mr. G. F. Wilson has lent me two eggs, taken a few years ago in the Mesaoria,

which, after a careful comparison with others at the South Kensington Museum, I am quite satisfied are those of this species. Horsbrugh identified one male and two females taken in the island, and kept in captivity by Mr. T. Greenwood, as *P. arenarius*. I gather from Mr. G. F. Wilson that this is the species generally met with, that it is partially resident throughout the year, and that the numbers of the resident Sand-Grouse appear to be augmented considerably by migrants in autumn and probably in spring. A flock of some twenty or more individuals frequented at evening a lake about five miles from Nicosia, and on November the 26th, 1909, Mr. G. F. Wilson shot a fine female which was sent to me for identification. Mr. Baxendale on January the 20th, 1910, obtained three live specimens—two hens and a cock—from the Mukhtar of Vatili, a village between Nicosia and Famagusta; they were quite tame and had been taken by him as young chicks and fed and reared with his poultry. He added that the bird breeds annually near his village in small numbers and lays two eggs.

906. *PTEROCLES ALCHATA* (Linn.).

Sibthorp in his Journal writes, "May 3rd (1787) near Hagios Georghios . . . (on the flats between Larnaca and Famagusta) our chasseur shot a very rare bird of the *Tetrao* kind, *T. alchata*, called by the greeks 'παρδαλός'; this is a bird of passage visiting the island in the spring and retiring in the autumn".

To the above I can add nothing at present of any value, except that Mr. G. F. Wilson identifies one of the three species which he distinguishes when shooting as the Pintailed Sand-Grouse.

908. *PTEROCLES EXUSTUS* (Temm.).

The Singed Sand-Grouse is perhaps the third species believed to visit or occur in the island. I have as yet no definite record of its having been obtained, but Cobham in his 'Hand-book of Cyprus' 1907, states that this is probably one of the species which is found in the island.

911. PHASIANUS COLCHICUS Linn.

References to the Pheasant in Cyprus are made by the mediæval writers, but it has long ago disappeared. Mariti, a most reliable and accurate author, who was acquainted with both Partridges and Francolins, writing towards the end of the 18th century, states that "pheasants, which abounded in Cyprus even after its unhappy absorption in the Ottoman Empire, have all been exterminated."

An attempt made very shortly after the British occupation to re-introduce Pheasants by Lord John Kennedy and Captain A. S. Stevenson was not a success, though the birds were turned down at Aghirda Wood in the Kyrenia district, probably as suitable a locality as there is in the island. Through the kindness of Mr. W. Fremlin we have this year been able to make another attempt at the introduction of Pheasants. Horsbrugh brought out in January twenty-eight birds, which have been distributed in two centres and some of which are, at present, doing very well.

947. CACCABIS CHUCAR (Gray).

The Chukar Partridge is a resident, and the only Partridge which occurs in Cyprus. The introduction of modern weapons of precision in large numbers has, within the last twenty years, caused a very marked decrease in the abundance of the species. From early accounts it must have been extremely numerous. At present, though found in all parts of the island, it is only in a few secluded localities that a bag of eight or ten brace may be confidently expected. Though mercilessly pursued it is so wary a bird and so well accustomed to take care of itself, that it is in little danger of extermination. It is, notwithstanding the law, by no means an uncommon practice for the peasants to utilize the eggs of this bird for making "Easter" cakes or omelettes, but I am glad to say that the offenders, when discovered, are now promptly prosecuted. It is a good bird on the table with a well marked flavour of its own. It nests during April and May and lays sometimes as many as sixteen eggs; the average size of twelve was 1.53 × 1.18 inches.

This Partridge thrives well and breeds in captivity. It is a very common cage-bird in the bazaars, and becomes extremely tame.

In 1883 an attempt was made by Mr. J. P. Middleton to introduce the English species, *Perdix cinerea*. A few pairs were turned down in standing barley at Kolossi farm, near Limassol, but the experiment was not a success, and their fate is a mystery.

952. FRANCOLINUS VULGARIS Steph.

The Francolin is described from Cyprus as early as 1738, by Dr. Poccocke, and is referred to at some length by numerous writers.

It is therefore unnecessary to say more than that it is a resident, and, except in a few remoter localities such as the Papho and Karpas districts where there is ample cover, is now by no means common. It is, unfortunately for itself, not a wary bird and very easy to shoot, and, in consequence, although protected by law entirely until 1911 it still, it is to be feared, frequently falls a victim to unscrupulous gunners. It need hardly perhaps be stated that it is far less abundant than it was forty or fifty years ago. It is, however, still well known to all local sportsmen, and I think that, on the whole, the protection supposed to be afforded to it by the law has not been altogether without effect. When shooting in the Papho district in the autumn of 1908 I saw as many as a dozen individuals in a day. It nests in late April, May and early June, and I have notes of clutches of from eight to eleven eggs from April the 24th to June the 4th. I am told that it is an excellent table bird. The mention of the occurrence of the "Ptarmigan" in Cyprus by an anonymous writer in 'The Field' of April the 27th, 1889, is obviously a mistake for "Francolin."

958. COTURNIX COMMUNIS Bonnaterra.

The Quail has been well known in Cyprus for centuries and is constantly referred to by mediæval writers.

It is at the present day a regular visitor in some numbers on its spring and autumn migrations, and, whilst a few

probably nest annually in the island, more—often a fair sprinkling—remain throughout the winter. But in Cyprus, as in other places, the number of visitors is extremely variable: in some years very fair sport can be obtained during the autumn, whilst in others the bird is noticeably scarce.

Lord Lilford found "very great numbers" in the middle of April, 1875, in the Famagusta neighbourhood, and he was told that the vernal migration was a normal one; on the other hand, Guillemard states that he did not see more than a dozen during his two visits in 1887 and 1888—a period which included two spring seasons. During the early influx, the growing and standing crops, and the fact that it is then the close season for shooting, no doubt hide its numbers; but even in the autumn there has been of late years, as I am informed, no great inrush such as is regularly met with on many parts of the Mediterranean littoral. Twenty couple would be an excellent bag in Cyprus; and I am inclined to think that, at any rate as a rule, the island receives only outliers of one of the vast streams which annually move north and south.

The spring migration commences at the end of March, but the migrants have passed by the end of April: the return passage takes place at the end of August and during September and October.

With regard to the breeding of this species in the island, Müller mentions two clutches of eggs, one of thirteen taken on April the 10th, and the other of ten on May the 15th. I have notes of its occurrence in every month of the year, and in July 1908, Mr. G. F. Wilson found very young birds near Nicosia: its nesting is also well known to other English sportsmen. As to its being a winter visitor my own notes are voluminous and conclusive, and I have eaten the bird in November, December, and January: nine were shot by a gentleman at Famagusta on January the 10th, 1909.

The best bag I have heard of since I have been in the island is ten and a half couple by Messrs. T. Greenwood and Baxendale at Papho on October the 11th, 1908.

In the autumn the Quail feeds very greedily on sesame

seed, with which one finds the crop crammed. It need perhaps hardly be added that this species does not frequent the hills.

984. *RALLUS AQUATICUS* Linn.

Lord Lilford found the Water-Rail not uncommon in suitable localities, and Guillemard observed a number near Larnaca at the beginning of February. Schrader states that it occurs rarely in winter. Glaszner sent a good many specimens to Madarász, taken near Larnaca in October, November, December, and January. I shot a female at Morphou on December the 12th, 1901, and saw another at Papho on February the 7th of the same year. Mr. Baxendale obtained three at Avgasida marsh on December the 26th, 1909; Mr. G. F. Wilson shot a male near Nicosia on January the 9th, 1910; and I have notes of other specimens during this winter.

It is apparently only a winter visitor, but its skulking habits prevent it from being very often noticed.

986. *PORZANA MARUETTA* (Leach).

Lord Lilford found the Spotted Crake in abundance in every likely spot which he hunted up with his dogs in April and early May, and had no doubt that it bred in the island, though he did not discover the nest. Schrader met with it in October in the marshes. Müller refers to four adult males taken on November the 11th and 13th. I do not find any mention of the bird by Guillemard, and Glaszner does not appear to have forwarded it to Madarász. Mr. Baxendale sent me a single specimen taken at Papho on March the 7th, 1909; Horsbrugh shot a male at Acheritou reservoir on March the 31st, and saw another at Karavostasi near Morphou Bay on May the 7th of the same year. Mr. Baxendale shot an adult male near Papho on October the 3rd, 1909, and we obtained some examples early in April 1910, on the freshwater lake at Famagusta.

It is no doubt mostly a bird of passage, but probably some individuals nest and some remain during the winter.

987. *PORZANA BAILLONI* (Vieill.).

Lord Lilford shot an adult female Baillon's Crake near Larnaca on April the 19th, 1875. Glaszner sent Madarász a male taken at the same place on November the 8th, 1901. I had a bird of this species brought to me alive on April the 4th, 1909, which had been captured near Pera, about ten miles from Nicosia. From April the 1st, 1910, onwards, Messrs. Baxendale and Horsbrugh obtained several at the Famagusta marshes. Possibly it is a resident, but I am disposed to regard it as a visitor on the migrations and in winter.

989 *PORZANA PARVA* (Scop.).

Guillemard observed the Little Crake near Larnaca in early February 1887, and shot a specimen near the same place on April the 7th in the following year. Messrs. Baxendale and Horsbrugh found it quite abundant at the Famagusta lakes at the end of March and beginning of April, 1910, and obtained over a dozen specimens. It is a visitor at the seasons of migration and perhaps in winter.

993. *CREX PRATENSIS* Bechst.

The Corn-Crake or Land-Rail was included in Sibthorp's list, but was not met with by Lord Lilford. Schrader refers to it as a spring and autumn migrant. Guillemard heard it once on March the 6th, 1888, and Glaszner sent a female to Madarász taken on August the 27th, 1901, near Larnaca. Mr. G. F. Wilson records an example shot near Nicosia in mid-September, 1908; I flushed one when shooting near Papho close to the sea on September the 21st; Mr. G. F. Wilson himself shot one at Nicosia on October the 10th and Mr. Baxendale another at Papho on October the 19th—all in 1908.

I have never heard its cry in Cyprus, and I believe that it is only a spring and autumn migrant or an occasional visitor.

998. *GALLINULA CHLOROPUS* (Linn.).

The Water-hen or Moor-hen is another species which was recognised by Sibthorp.

Lord Lilford called it "common in all suitable localities," but I can only find one record by Guillemard, namely where

he describes shooting a specimen near Larnaca in early April, 1887. Glaszner sent Madarász three examples taken near the same place in November and December. I have a note of seeing one taken alive in the autumn of 1908, in Limassol district; Mr. Baxendale has frequently met with and shot the bird near Papho in winter. Horsbrugh found a few at Kouklia reservoir near Famagusta in early April, 1909, and obtained specimens there; I had a male brought to me alive on April 12th, taken near Nicosia, and another sent to me from Acheritou reservoir on May 1st; Horsbrugh also saw an individual near Papho on May the 23rd—all in 1909.

This species is probably a partial resident, but mainly a visitor on the migrations and in winter.

999. *FULICA ATRA* Linn.

It seems curious that the Coot should have escaped notice until Pearse sent specimens to Lord Lilford, who did not himself meet with the bird. But Schrader states that the Coot is found from the end of October until the end of February on the marshes and lakes of the island. Guillemard does not mention it, but seems to have shot one at Famagusta in March. Glaszner sent a male to Madarász from Larnaca, taken in October.

Lord Lilford was told that this species abounded on the fresh and salt water lakes in winter. Whether it used to be as common as it is now, I should greatly doubt, but the establishment of the large freshwater reservoirs in the Famagusta district has created for this—and other aquatic birds—an ideal resort as long as there is water. In October 1901, Miss Bate saw the Kouklia reservoir crowded with Coots, and was told that they nested in the corn-fields round the edge of the water and that the peasants collected great quantities of eggs for food. I have seen them in thousands in the winter at both Acheritou and Kouklia, where they breed in summer whenever the water is not run off, but they naturally leave these localities and the island when the waters are dried up or drained off, as was the case in 1908 and 1909.

The Coot may also be found on the salt-lakes.

1001. *GRUS COMMUNIS* Bechst.

Large flights of the Common Crane cross over the island at the spring and autumn migrations and are a very familiar sight: the spring movement takes place from the middle to towards the end of March: the autumn flight from towards the end of August to about the middle of September. Large numbers sometimes alight, but the bulk pass high in the air. A few frequent the marshes during the cold season, and I have notes of having seen small flocks of from a dozen to twenty individuals throughout the winter months crossing the Mesaoria plain from the Famagusta to the Morphou marshes. On January 15th, 1908, I saw and unsuccessfully stalked two on the Acheritou reservoir.

This species appears to have been first recorded by Lord Lilford.

1007. *GRUS VIRGO* (Linn.).

The Demoiselle Crane is a regular spring and autumn migrant, but has not very often been definitely recorded, owing no doubt to the difficulty with which these birds can be approached. Lord Lilford met with a flock of some thirty near Larnaca in the middle of April; and Guillemard, who only found the head of a specimen on a cottage door during his first visit, subsequently observed its arrival in the same neighbourhood and obtained it at the beginning of April. It appears to stay only some two or three weeks. From observations taken at Limassol it would seem to arrive at the very end of March and return in mid-September and the beginning of October.

1010. *OTIS TARDA* Linn.

The casual references to Bustards which may be found in several accounts of Cyprus do not in general trouble to specify the species. Lord Lilford, however, gathered from what he was told in the island that the Great Bustard was a casual and somewhat uncommon visitor to the Mesaoria plain. Guillemard received similar information, and was informed by Mr. King, then (in 1887) Commissioner of Nicosia, that

on one occasion he had a recently killed specimen brought to him. Mr. T. Greenwood, who has had a very long experience as a sportsman in Cyprus, tells me that he met with this bird very rarely near Famagusta; and Mr. G. F. Wilson has seen one only, namely on January the 29th, 1905, on the Mesaoria plain not very far from Nicosia.

I am not aware that any local specimen yet obtained has been properly identified as *Otis tarda*, but I think that there can be little doubt that the species is an occasional straggler to the island.

1012. TETRAX CAMPESTRIS Leach.

Otis tetrax Linn., B. O. U. List, p. 154.

The Little Bustard is a rare winter visitor. Lord Lilford thought he saw a small flock near Famagusta, but was at too great a distance for positive identification. Schrader states that he obtained a single specimen in November.

Müller mentions a young male from the island, and Guillemard heard of the bird being sometimes exposed for sale in the Nicosia market. Mr. T. Greenwood informs me that he has shot examples of this species in winter, on several occasions. Mr. Baxendale obtained two individuals from a party of three close to Papho on December the 18th, 1908, and on January the 1st, 1910, bought a specimen in the Famagusta bazaar. Lord Lilford was informed that the Little Bustard bred in the corn-lands in the island, but, so far as I can ascertain, it is only known to the people in Cyprus as a winter visitor.

1014. HOUBARA MACQUEENI (Gray & Hardw.).

A few years ago a single specimen of Macqueen's Bustard was taken alive in the island and kept for some weeks in captivity by Mr. A. Artemis of Nicosia. I am informed that it was identified by Mr. Templer (then King's Advocate of Cyprus), who was a competent ornithologist. I confess that I should have thought it much more likely to have been *H. undulata* (Jacq.), the Houbara Bustard, which species I should not be at all surprised to find also locally confused with *Otis tarda*.

1015. *ÆDICNEMUS SCOLOPAX* (S. G. Gmel.).

The Stone Curlew is tolerably common in the plains and is, at any rate in some numbers, resident.

Sibthorp obtained it in May; Lord Lilford found it common in all suitable localities during his visit and believed it to be a permanent resident: Schrader states that it can be found singly throughout the year: Müller mentions a male taken in January; Guillemard met with it in May and June; Glaszner at the end of August. Mr. Baxendale has had it under his observation in the Papho district during practically the entire year, and I have had specimens sent to me in March from Athalassa and in May also from the Nicosia neighbourhood. Mr. G. F. Wilson, who has frequently shot it, tells me that he has met with it in August, September, and January, and that young birds have been obtained in August, so that there is little doubt as to its breeding locally. It was also noticed by Horsbrugh in May, and he saw a flock of about twenty at Famagusta on January the 13th, 1910.

1016. *GLAREOLA PRATICOLA* (Linn.).

Probably the "birds not unlike plovers," which appeared upon the procession of the holy picture from the Kykko monastery and "swooping down upon the locusts devoured great quantity," as mentioned by Cornelis van Bruyn, a Dutchman who visited Cyprus in 1683, were Pratincoles. Van Bruyn states that these birds "had never been seen before nor were ever seen again, but the Pasha had forbidden them to be killed, under pain of death."

Sibthorp, who includes this species in his list, speaks of it in his Journal as a summer visitor. Lord Lilford found it very abundant about the beginning of May and stated that he felt no doubt that it bred in the island. Schrader states that it occurs in small flocks at the migration seasons only. Guillemard met with numbers at Morphou towards the end of May 1887. Glaszner does not appear to have sent it to Madarász. None of our party came across this bird in the spring of 1909, but, though it can no longer count on finding flights of locusts in Cyprus, the island is well within its

summer range, and I should expect to find it a more or less regular summer visitor.

1020. *CHARADRIUS PLUVIALIS* Linn.

The Golden Plover seems to have been recorded hitherto only by Guillemard, who mentions obtaining it at Avgasida marsh in early March, 1888.

As a fact this species is a tolerably common winter visitor and well known to all local sportsmen. According to Mr. G. F. Wilson the Golden Plover seems to arrive slightly before the Lapwing and stays a little later. It appears about the beginning of November and often consorts with the flocks of the Lapwing: it leaves the island in the early part of March. On November the 15th, 1908, I saw a small flock of about twenty individuals near the river, close to Nicosia, and on December the 19th, 1908, and January the 10th, 1909, Mr. G. F. Wilson kindly brought me male specimens in the flesh, which he had obtained when shooting in the same neighbourhood. He regards it as nearly as common as *Vanellus vulgaris*. This winter (1909-10) I purchased a dozen or more at different times in the Nicosia bazaar.

1022. *SQUATAROLA HELVETICA* (Linn.).

Sibthorp included in his list *Tringa varia*, which is certainly a Linnæan name for the Grey Plover, but it was omitted by Unger and Kotschy, and does not seem to have been recorded by any other observer hitherto.

According to Mr. G. F. Wilson the Grey Plover is a rare winter visitor: he has, in the course of several years, only obtained it twice, namely on December the 20th, 1903, and December the 1st, 1907—on both occasions near Nicosia.

1024. *ÆGIALITIS GEOFFROYI* (Wagl.).

The only definite records in Cyprus of the Greater Sand-Plover of which I am aware are by Guillemard, who shot a male commencing to assume summer plumage at the Limassol salt-lake on March the 10th, 1887, out of a small flock of six or seven birds, and by Mr. Baxendale, who shot a female near Famagusta on March the 11th, 1910.

1028. *ÆGIALITIS CANTIANA* (Lath.).

The Kentish Plover was first noticed by Lord Lilford, who found it more or less abundant and states that it breeds in Cyprus. Schrader wrote of it as an uncommon winter visitor. Guillemard met with it at the end of April near Famagusta, and Glaszner sent to Madarász three examples taken in January and March. Horsbrugh obtained a specimen at Acheritouï on April the 9th, 1909, and Mr. Baxendale another at Famagusta on January the 12th, 1910.

Lord Lilford thought that this species was perhaps more abundant than either of the two following. It is probably a resident.

1029. *ÆGIALITIS HIATICOLA* (Linn.).

The Ringed Plover was included by Sibthorp in his list, and Lord Lilford found it at the time of his visit more or less frequently. Schrader speaks of it as a winter visitor. Guillemard met with this species at the Limassol salt-lake in early March, near Famagusta at the end of April, and near Larnaca at the end of January. Glaszner has taken it in the latter month, and also in September.

Horsbrugh obtained it at the reservoirs at the end of March, and he and Mr. Baxendale shot several in the Papho district between the 19th and 24th of May, 1909. It is a spring and autumn migrant and a winter visitor.

1032. *ÆGIALITIS CURONICA* (Gmel.).

Lord Lilford discovered the Little Ringed Plover more or less frequently during his visit, and Müller records an adult male obtained in spring. Guillemard met with it at the Limassol salt-lake in early March, and on the 26th of April near Famagusta. Glaszner sent Madarász specimens obtained near Larnaca in March and April. Mr. Baxendale obtained the bird at Papho in May 1909. It is certainly a visitor on its migrations, and perhaps a partial resident.

1035. *EUDROMIAS MORINELLUS* (Linn.).

I am pleased to be able to add the Dotterel to the Cypriote list. I bought a single female along with five Golden Plovers

on December the 15th, 1909, in the Nicosia bazaar, for twenty piastres.

1037. *HOPLOPTERUS SPINOSUS* (Linn.).

The Spur-winged Plover was met with by Sibthorp, who mentions in his Journal having shot a specimen flying near his vessel when lying off the island in early April (1787). Lord Lilford obtained one example near Limassol—out of the only two seen by him during his visit—on May the 8th. Pearse obtained specimens: Schrader states that he only procured one and that in November: and Müller records a single immature example. Guillemard seems to have but once met with the bird, shooting it at Avgasida marsh in early March. Glaszner obtained a male on April the 10th, 1902. It is known to Mr. Nicolls and other English sportsmen; and Horsbrugh came across a few at the Acheritou reservoir between the 24th of March and the 10th of April, 1909, and obtained several specimens. Mr. Nicolls states that, in some seasons, when the height of the water has been favourable, it has nested at the reservoirs. It is anyhow a spring and autumn migrant.

1042. *VANELLUS VULGARIS* Bechst.

Schrader states that the Lapwing occurred in winter in small flocks; but Guillemard, though he met with one flock between Nicosia and Larnaca at the end of February, 1887, and two or three large flights near Famagusta at the end of January in the following year, does not seem to have thought it very common. Glaszner has obtained a few in the latter month. The Lapwing, at the present time, is an abundant winter visitor, arriving towards the middle of November (though some are occasionally noticed in October) and leaving towards the middle of March. It is well known to all the local sportsmen, while I have met with it in considerable numbers in the cold weather on marshy ground in all parts of the island, and have shot several specimens.

1044. *HÆMATOPUS OSTRALEGUS* Linn.

Sibthorp in his Journal mentions that on April the 17th

(1787) he shot on the beach near Armidia (Ormidhia, not far from Larnaca) a bird of this species. This is the only record of the Oyster-catcher in Cyprus with which I am acquainted. The species has been included hitherto by the other writers solely on account of its mention in Unger and Kotschy's list, doubtless copied from Sibthorp. The origin of the record is as given above.

1046. *RECURVIROSTRA AVOCETTA* Linn.

The Avocet is another pleasing addition to the Cypriote list. A pair were seen at Larnaca salt-lake at the end of December 1909, and a male bird captured was kindly sent to me alive by Mr. W. J. Ansell, I.S.O.

1047. *HIMANTOPUS CANDIDUS* Bonnat.

The Black-winged Stilt was another species included by Sibthorp in his list. Lord Lilford found it common in May about the freshwater marshes, and Guillemard met with it in some numbers near Larnaca in early April, 1887, and near Famagusta at the end of May, 1888.

It seems to have been accidentally omitted by Madarász from his paper, 'Ueber die Vögel Cyperns.'

The Black-winged Stilt is a regular visitor on the spring and autumn migrations, and would no doubt nest in the island every summer if conditions were suitable. Mr. Nicolls informs me that since 1904 he has seen these birds every spring at the Acheritou reservoir, sometimes in fair numbers, *i. e.* ten or a dozen pairs. Once or twice—notably in 1905—when the water was maintained at a height which exposed several small islets, they bred in company with a few pairs of the Common and Lesser Terns and of the Spur-winged Plover. In May 1905, Mr. Nicolls collected there a number of eggs, two of which are now in the possession of the Cyprus Natural History Society. In the spring of 1909 Horsbrugh found the Stilt in plenty at Acheritou, from the 23rd of March till the 5th of April, and obtained a good series. There were probably thirty pairs, but they were seen in flocks of from six to twenty or thirty individuals: they did not nest, as the water was practically all drained off by early May.

I have no definite note of the date of the return migration, nor have I heard of the bird being observed in winter.

1050. *SCOLOPAX RUSTICULA* Linn.

The Woodcock is an abundant winter visitor. Mariti (1760-71) writes of it as one of the commonest birds in the island and much prized for food. In 1814 an officer in the East India Company's Service visited the island in January and writes of its abundance. It was not met with by Sibthorp, as at the time of his visit it would have gone north, and consequently its name did not appear in Unger and Kotschy's list, nor does Müller mention it, though Schrader speaks of it as a fairly common winter visitor. It was of course not seen by Lord Lilford, but he was told that forty couple had been shot in the Papho district by two English officers. No such bag can be expected—at any rate in one day—at the present time, but the bird arrives in considerable numbers at the beginning of November and leaves in early March; bitter weather on the Karamanian mountains, will cause, as a rule, a marked increase in the numbers at any time during the winter. It frequents the wooded hillsides and is often shot close to, or even in the gardens of the towns. In the Karpas, the Papho district, and at Aghirda wood near Nicosia excellent sport may still be had, but ten couple to two guns in a day's march would be the utmost to which any one may reasonably look forward.

1052. *GALLINAGO MAJOR* (Gmel.).

The Great or Double Snipe is a winter visitor, but is without doubt constantly confused with the Common Snipe. Indeed it does not seem to be, at the present time, known to the local sportsmen. It appears to have been first noticed by Lord Lilford (as the *Scolopax media* Steph. of Unger and Kotschy's list is obviously a substitution for the *Scolopax gallinago* of Sibthorp and is re-rendered by Müller as *Telmatis gallinago* Boie): he procured several specimens near Larnaca in the third week in April. Guillemard obtained others, and found it not uncommon in the marshes near Famagusta as late as the end of May, 1887. No example

of this species seems to have been sent to Madarász by Glaszner. Though I have shot a good many Snipe in the island, I have not as yet come across it. On the 26th of January, 1908, Mr. Nicolls and I, together with another gun, obtained 99 Snipe at Morphou marsh, but amongst them there was neither a Great nor a Jack Snipe !

1053. *GALLINAGO CÆLESTIS* (Frenzel).

The Common or Single Snipe is a very abundant winter visitor to Cyprus, and is frequently mentioned by writers from the sixteenth century onwards. From a careful series of observations by Mr. G. F. Wilson, and from the experience of myself and others, it is clear that the first Snipe arrive on their southerly migration at the end of August: most of these are birds of passage, but the migration continues, as the weather north becomes colder, until about the end of October or beginning of November, when the marshes are at their best for autumn shooting. Good sport may be enjoyed throughout the winter, particularly when wintry weather on the mainland from time to time drives over a fresh supply of birds. At the end of February and beginning of March the northerly movement takes place, and the spring sport is then at its height. By the end of March the vast majority have gone, but without doubt a few remain during the summer. Mr. Jebb, when stationed near the reservoirs in the summer of 1908, had perhaps a dozen under observation throughout the whole of that period, but did not find a nest. Fifty couple to two guns in a day is the Snipe shooter's ambition in Cyprus, but I am not sure that it has been quite attained.

1058. *GALLINAGO GALLINULA* (Linn.).

Limnocryptes gallinula, B. O. U. List, p. 167.

The Jack Snipe is a common winter visitor, but not so abundant as the preceding species. It does not, however, arrive till the end of October or beginning of November, and has, as a rule, left by the middle or end of March, though, of course, individuals are occasionally met with in April. Guillemard, on the only occasion on which he mentions it, obtained a single specimen on the 16th of that

month. It appears to have been first noticed by Lord Lilford, who saw only a few, but Müller suggests that this species was probably intended by the "*Scolopax cyprius*" mentioned in Sibthorp's list and copied by Unger and Kotschy, though for my own part I consider that the Romaic name "*Τρολουρίδα της θαλάσσης*" given by Sibthorp certainly does not refer to this bird, but more probably to Sandpipers generally. The proportion of Jack to Common Snipe which is obtained when shooting varies very much: on November the 16th, 1907, out of twenty-nine birds no less than twenty were Jacks; on January the 26th, 1908, out of ninety-nine there was not one; on December the 7th, 1908, out of seventeen only two.

1065. *TRINGA ALPINA* Linn.

The Dunlin was in Sibthorp's list. Lord Lilford found it in small numbers on the sandy shores near Famagusta and Limassol in April and May. Schrader states that it is a winter visitor. Guillemard obtained it near Famagusta in the middle of May, 1888, and Glaszner sent six examples to Madarász, obtained near Larnaca in September, November, and December. It is a spring and autumn migrant and winter visitor.

1067. *TRINGA MINUTA* Leisl.

The Little Stint is a visitor on its spring and autumn migrations and probably a few birds remain in the island in the winter. Schrader refers to it as a winter visitor; Pearse obtained a female at Larnaca on October the 1st, 1878; Müller records three adult males procured on January the 4th, February the 9th, and February the 23rd; Guillemard took one near Famagusta on May the 21st, 1888; Glaszner a female near Larnaca on October the 28th, 1901; Mr. Baxendale and Horsbrugh each shot a specimen near Kouklia (Papho district) on May the 23rd, 1909; and Mr. G. F. Wilson shot two males and one female on October the 10th in the same year near Nicosia.

1072. *TRINGA SUBARQUATA* (Güld.).

The Curlew Sandpiper or Pigmy Curlew was one of Unger and Kotschy's additions to Sibthorp's list, but was possibly

intended to represent the latter's *Tringa varia*, as those writers omit the Grey Plover, and "*Ærolia varia*" Vieill. was then a recognised synonym for the species now under consideration. However, the Curlew Sandpiper was not met with again until Glaszner sent Madarász two females taken near Larnaca on September the 2nd, 1902. I shot a male in winter plumage in Morphou marsh on December the 12th, 1908; Horsbrugh obtained another in full breeding dress on May the 20th, 1909, and Mr. Baxendale a female on the 24th of the same month, both not far from Papho. This species is no doubt a visitor at the seasons of migration, and a few individuals remain in the island during the winter.

1078. *CALIDRIS ARENARIA* (Linn.).

Pearse sent Lord Lilford a male of this bird in winter plumage taken near Larnaca on October the 1st, 1888. I know of no other record.

1080. *MACHETES PUGNAX* (Linn.).

The Ruff was included in Sibthorp's list. Lord Lilford speaks of it as not uncommon on the vernal migration, and Guillemard met with it on both his visits; at the end of March, 1887, he obtained a male in immature or non-breeding plumage near Limassol out of a small flock of eight or ten, while he secured a specimen at Kouklia marsh on February the 27th, 1888, and a male in full breeding plumage on May the 20th near Larnaca. Glaszner sent to Madarász a female from near the latter place, shot on March the 7th, 1901.

The edges of the Famagusta reservoirs are evidently a favourite resort of this bird, as Horsbrugh in 1909 found it quite abundant there from the 23rd of March till he left the vicinity on April the 8th. He obtained a good many specimens, and on March the 24th saw at Acheritou a flock of quite sixty. None of the birds which he obtained exhibited more than slight traces of breeding plumage. The Ruff is evidently a fairly common visitor in spring and autumn.

1083. *TOTANUS CALIDRIS* (Linn.).

The Redshank was included by Sibthorp in his list, but was apparently omitted by Unger and Kotschy.

Lord Lilford found it exceedingly common in April 1875, especially near the Larnaca salt-lakes. Schrader writes of it as a winter visitor. Guillemard only mentions it once, when he met with a stray specimen near Limassol in early March, 1887. Glaszner sent Madarász a female taken on November the 5th, 1903, near Larnaca. The Redshank is, I believe, not at all uncommon in winter and at the seasons of migration, and I think forms no small proportion of the flocks of Waders sometimes observed near the reservoirs. Mr. Nicolls informs me that he has shot the bird more than once in the island. Mr. Baxendale obtained a female from Acheritou on January the 12th, 1910, and a few days later Horsbrugh met with several individuals at the Larnaca salt-lake.

1084. *TOTANUS FUSCUS* (Linn.).

A female Spotted Redshank was shot by Lord Lilford in a marsh near Larnaca on April the 21st, 1875. Mr. Baxendale shot a female near Famagusta on March the 11th, 1910. I know of no other local records. This is, no doubt, an uncommon spring and autumn migrant but it is easily overlooked.

1085. *TOTANUS GLOTTIS* Naum.

Totanus canescens, B. O. U. List, p. 177.

Lord Lilford found the Greenshank not uncommon in the swampy plains westward of Salamis in April—not in flocks but singly or in couples—probably pairs. Apparently, either Pearse or Guillemard obtained specimens, but the latter does not mention the species in his 'Ibis' articles. Mr. G. F. Wilson shot a male at Pyroi, near Nicosia, on October the 3rd, 1909. No doubt it is solely a visitor in spring and autumn, a few, perhaps, wintering in the island.

1087. *TOTANUS STAGNATILIS* Bechst.

As "*Totanus stagnalis* (!) Bechst." the Marsh-Sandpiper is one of Unger and Kotschy's additions to Sibthorp's list; but there are, of course, no data given. However, Lord Lilford received, without particulars, through Guillemard, in January 1889, a single specimen which had been obtained by or through Captain (now Sir Arthur) Young, at that time

Commissioner of Famagusta, and Glaszner sent a female to Madarász taken near Larnaca on April the 20th, 1903. I have no knowledge of any other occurrences, but assume that the bird is an occasional spring and autumn migrant.

1089. *TOTANUS OCHROPUS* (Linn.).

Helodromas ochropus, B. O. U. List, p. 174.

Lord Lilford met with the Green Sandpiper frequently, on muddy ground, in April and May. Guillemard mentions obtaining a specimen towards the end of February, 1887, near Famagusta, and, according to Lord Lilford, brought back others shot in March on both his visits. Mr. G. F. Wilson shot a male at Pyroi on September the 26th, 1910. It is, no doubt, only a visitor on migration and in winter.

1091. *TOTANUS GLAREOLA* (Gmel.).

Lord Lilford found the Wood Sandpiper common in May, particularly near Limassol, and observed a pair which he was convinced had a nest. Schrader mentions meeting with it in January and speaks of it as common. Guillemard does not mention it in his 'Ibis' papers, but either he or Pearse seems from Lord Lilford's account to have obtained it. Glaszner sent Madarász two specimens taken in early April near Larnaca, and Horsbrugh obtained a female near Papho on May the 20th, 1909. I am inclined to think that this species is only a visitor in winter and on the migrations.

1092. *TOTANUS HYPOLEUCUS* (Linn.).

Tringoides hypoleucus, B. O. U. List, p. 173.

Lord Lilford found the Summer Snipe or Common Sandpiper very frequently in April and May on almost all parts of the coast visited by him. Guillemard does not refer to it, but he or Pearse seems to have obtained the bird. Glaszner does not appear to have sent it to Madarász. Mr. Baxendale, Horsbrugh and I have met with it fairly often. I obtained a male at Acheritou on January the 15th, 1908; Mr. Baxendale another at Papho on October the 11th; from May the 2nd to May the 20th, 1909, we obtained several specimens both near Nicosia and in the Papho district. It is probably only a visitor on the migrations and in winter.

1101. LIMOSA BELGICA (Gmel.).

Limosa aegecephala, B. O. U. List, p. 178.

Lord Lilford felt little doubt that he had seen the Black-tailed Godwit near Famagusta, but was unable to identify it positively. Schrader states that it is a winter visitor. Guillemard in early March, 1888, obtained specimens on the marsh (now a reservoir) at Koukليا between Nicosia and Famagusta. Horsbrugh obtained a female in partial breeding plumage on the bank of the same place on April the 8th, 1909. It is, no doubt, a visitor at the migratory seasons and perhaps in winter.

1104. NUMENIUS PHÆOPUS (Linn.).

Guillemard mentions meeting with "a species of Whimbrel" near Famagusta on the 26th of April, 1887, and obtained a "Whimbrel" at Koukليا marsh on the 26th of February, 1888, but it was unfortunately eaten by a cat! Though there seems no reason why this species should not occur on migration or in winter in the island, Lord Lilford thought it probable that the bird obtained by Guillemard was *N. tenuirostris*.

1106. NUMENIUS TENUIROSTRIS Vieill.

The Slender-billed Curlew is no doubt a regular visitor at the migrations and probably in winter. Lord Lilford saw, during his visit, great numbers of birds, which he took to belong to this species, near Larnaca and Limassol, but was never able to approach them closely enough for absolute certainty of identification. Sir Samuel Baker mentions that on his visit in 1880 he shot a "small species of Curlew."

1107. NUMENIUS ARQUATA (Linn.).

Numenius arquata, B. O. U. List, p. 179.

The Common Curlew was included in Sibthorp's list and was observed in great numbers by Lord Lilford in April at the Limassol salt-lake, and later in other localities. Schrader states that it arrives at the beginning of September and stays till the end of February, and there is no doubt that it is a regular visitor on the migrations and in winter. I saw

numbers of Curlews when shooting at Morphou marsh on January the 26th, 1908, and also on the ooze beds in Famagusta Harbour on January the 29th, 1909, while the bird is well known to the English sportsmen. Mr. Jebb recorded its first arrival at the reservoirs on September the 4th, 1908; Mr. Bovill observed several near Salamis in mid-November of the same year. Horsbrugh on the 30th of March, 1909, saw about a dozen at Kouklia reservoir, and three on April the 5th at Acheritou. On January the 13th, 1910, Mr. Baxendale saw seven near Famagusta, and on the following day a male was brought in to him by a native sportsman which I personally identified. I have no doubt whatever that the birds seen by myself and Horsbrugh were not *N. tenuirostris*.

1110. *HYDROCHELIDON NIGRA* (Linn.).

Schrader states that the Black Tern may be seen on its autumnal migration. Guillemard observed it, apparently in some abundance, near Famagusta towards the end of May, 1888, and obtained it there. I know of no other record, and the bird is probably only a visitor on passage.

1111. *HYDROCHELIDON LEUCOPTERA* (Schinz).

Lord Lilford found the White-winged Black Tern very abundant, arriving about the middle of May: he first noticed it near Papho, while Guillemard found it common near Famagusta in 1888. Glaszner sent to Madarász a specimen taken near Larnaca on May the 19th, 1901, and Mr. Baxendale shot another on June the 13th, 1909, near Papho. It is, so far as has been at present ascertained, only a visitor to Cyprus on migration.

1114. *STERNA FLUVIATILIS* Naum.

Lord Lilford found the Common Tern not uncommon on the coast in the Famagusta district in April and May, and Guillemard obtained it in mid-February, 1888.

I met with this species in fair numbers at Acheritou reservoir on January the 25th, 1908, and Mr. Nicolls, in May 1905, found it nesting at that place and took the eggs.

It is evidently to be found round and on the island at all seasons of the year, but chiefly at the times of migration.

1119. *STERNA CASPIA* Pall.

Lord Lilford identified two Caspian Terns near Limassol early in May, 1875, and had little doubt that he had seen the species elsewhere on the coast on other occasions. Guillemard saw it near Famagusta on April the 26th, 1887, and Horsbrugh observed a pair at Acheritou reservoir on April the 9th, 1909. So far, it only appears to have been noticed at the migration seasons.

1121. *STERNA ANGLICA* Montagu.

The Gull-billed Tern is stated by Schrader to occur on the autumnal migration. This is not at all improbable, though the species has not been recorded by any other observer.

1122. *STERNA MINUTA* Linn.

The Little Tern is the only Tern mentioned by Sibthorp. Lord Lilford found it not uncommon on the sea-coast near Famagusta and Salamis in April and May, and Guillemard on the 26th of the former month obtained it in the same neighbourhood. Mr. Nicolls found a few pairs nesting in May 1905 at Acheritou reservoir, and obtained the eggs; but in that summer the state of the water there was exceptionally favorable for the nidification of aquatic birds, and this Tern is evidently usually only a visitor at the migrations and, perhaps, in winter.

1133. *LARUS RIDIBUNDUS* Linn.

The Black-headed Gull was mentioned by Sibthorp, but was not observed by Lord Lilford or his collectors. Schrader met with it, apparently commonly, in October. Müller mentions four examples (one adult male and three females) taken on December the 16th and 17th, and on February the 1st and 14th respectively. Glaszner sent two females to Madarász, obtained near Larnaca on February the 2nd, 1901, and November the 19th, 1902. So far as I am aware, the bird is only a winter visitor.

1135. *LARUS MELANOCEPHALUS* Natterer.

The Adriatic Gull was frequently seen and heard by Lord Lilford between April the 16th and 21st near Larnaca, and on the 22nd a vast flock of some thousands were found by him at Famagusta in the inner harbour, more being met with higher up the coast on the following day; they were not, however, seen again. Schrader states that he only saw a single specimen. Guillemard came across an enormous pack between Larnaca and Famagusta in mid-April, 1887, and rather later in the month observed the bird at Famagusta. Lord Lilford judged, no doubt correctly, that this species was merely a passing visitor to Cyprus on migration.

1139. *LARUS MINUTUS* Pall.

The Little Gull was included in Sibthorp's list, but omitted by Unger and Kotschy in theirs. Schrader writes that he, on one occasion in winter, saw a few on a small lake near Larnaca. Guillemard, who makes no reference to this species in his 'Ibis' papers, brought Lord Lilford two females in immature plumage, obtained on February the 13th and 22nd, 1888, at Famagusta and Kouklia marsh respectively. It is a winter visitor only.

1140. *LARUS CANUS* Linn.

The Common Gull was recorded by Sibthorp, but does not seem to have been met with by Lord Lilford or his collectors. Müller, however, records an adult male obtained on January the 30th, and Glaszner sent Madarász six specimens taken in the same month. It is a winter visitor only.

1141. *LARUS GELASTES* Thienem.

The name of the Slender-billed Gull was included by Guillemard in the rough list prepared for Lord Lilford's use, but the former does not mention the species in his 'Ibis' papers, and did not obtain a specimen.

I am not aware of any other record from Cyprus.

1145. Subsp. *LARUS CACHINNANS* Pall.

The Yellow-legged Herring Gull was often met with by

Lord Lilford, though he did not regard it as abundant. Müller mentions the receipt of five clutches of the eggs of this bird taken on April the 28th, and states that, according to the collector, the species built on the roofs of houses! Guillemard refers to having seen it near Limassol in January, 1888, and Madarász, who makes a mistake in writing that the species was ignored by Lord Lilford, received several examples from Glaszner, obtained in September and January. In our experience the coasts of Cyprus are singularly devoid of Terns and Gulls, but this species may usually be noticed, and I have no doubt that it breeds in a few localities and that some birds are resident. I have notes of its occurrence on various parts of the coast and at the reservoirs in January, February, April, and May; on the 6th of May, 1909, I received an adult male from Acheritou; Horsbrugh found the bird, evidently nesting, in small numbers at Kyrenia at the end of April, and near Papho in the middle of May, and in February 1910 obtained several specimens at Limassol.

I have never personally heard of its building its nest on house-tops, as mentioned by Müller.

1147. *LARUS FUSCUS* Linn.

The Lesser Black-backed Gull was found commonly by Lord Lilford on the coasts in April and May, and all the specimens seen and obtained by him and his collectors—though the bird is not mentioned by Guillemard in his 'Ibis' papers—were in full adult plumage. Glaszner sent Madarász an old female, assuming breeding plumage, obtained at Larnaca on April the 2nd, 1902. There is no reason why this bird should not be a resident in Cyprus and it very likely is so, but I am not aware of its having as yet been actually found nesting in the island.

1150. *LARUS MARINUS* Linn.

The Greater Black-backed Gull was included in Sibthorp's list. Guillemard noted in the rough list referred to previously the words "adult, Famagusta Lake."

I know of no other record, and in any case it is only likely to be a rare winter visitor.

1158. *PROCELLARIA PELAGICA* Linn.

Glaszner sent to Madarász a single male obtained near Larnaca on March the 13th, 1903. This is the only record I know of from Cypriote waters.

1168. Subsp. *PUFFINUS YELKOUANUS* (Acerbi).

Sibthorp includes in his list *Procellaria puffinus*, which is, of course, a Shearwater. Unger and Kotschy omit Sibthorp's name, but insert *Puffinus major* Faber, which is the Great Shearwater. It is possible, however, that the later authors intended to refer to *P. major* Hewitson, nec Temm., a synonym of *P. kuhli* Boie—the Mediterranean Shearwater. In any case the Shearwater referred to by Sibthorp no doubt belonged to the form *P. yelkouanus*.

Lord Lilford noticed some numbers of a small Shearwater, which he did not definitely identify, off the west coast of Cyprus in May 1875, and, as Madarász points out, these, without doubt, would be *P. yelkouanus*.

[1169. *PUFFINUS GRAVIS* (O'Reilly).

The Great Shearwater is undoubtedly referred to by Unger and Kotschy in their list as *P. major* Faber, but the name must be either a complete mistake or explicable as referable to the preceding species. The Great Shearwater has no business in Cyprus waters.]

1171. *PUFFINUS KUHLI* (Boie).

The Mediterranean Shearwater was, possibly, incorrectly referred to in Unger and Kotschy's list under the name *P. major* Faber.

Lord Lilford observed a large Shearwater once or twice off the south coast of the island; there can be little doubt that it belonged to this species.

1215. *PODICIPES AURITUS* (Linn.).

Sibthorp included this species in his list under the designation *Colymbus auritus*, but, as that Linnæan name might

have meant either the Slavonian or the Eared Grebe, it is impossible to say definitely to which species he intended to refer. Unger and Kotschy, however, gratuitously omit the species altogether and, if Sibthorp referred to the former of the two birds, there is, so far as I am aware, no other record of it from Cyprus. Having been omitted by Unger and Kotschy from their list, it was, consequently, never mentioned by any of the later writers.

1216. *PODICIPES NIGRICOLLIS* E. L. Brehm.

Subject to what has been stated with regard to the preceding species, there has hitherto been no record of the Eared or Black-necked Grebe from Cyprus. However, since the establishment of the large freshwater reservoirs, Mr. Nicolls has been aware that a large Grebe frequented these waters. Horsbrugh, on his visit to the reservoirs, at the end of March and beginning of April, 1909, found this species in some numbers, both at Acheritou and Kouklia, and obtained several specimens, none of which, however, shewed any but the slightest trace of breeding plumage. From the latter place he sent to me at Nicosia a male which lived for some time on a large tank in my garden. When the water was drained off at Acheritou towards the end of April, all the water-birds, of course, left; but I have no doubt that at Kouklia reservoir, which is more reedy, and is emptied later than Acheritou, this species would nest, provided that the conditions remained suitable. Indeed, I found, on visiting Kouklia on December 27th, that quite a large number of these Grebes were on the water and had evidently, from what Mr. Nicolls tells me, been there the whole winter. I counted over twenty. I think that this may be regarded as a "would-be" resident, and no doubt is to be found on the reservoirs so long as there is ample water.

1217. *PODICIPES FLUVIATILIS* (Tunstall).

Tachybaptus fluviatilis, B. O. U. List, p. 204.

Schrader states that the Little Grebe is a rare winter visitor, and Guillemard also regarded it as a rarity, only obtaining

one specimen on April the 26th, 1887, near Famagusta, and another in mid-March, 1888, at Avgasida marsh. Glaszner sent a male to Madarász, taken near Larnaca on October the 1st, 1901. The freshwater reservoirs have, however, provided a new and ideal resort for this species in the island, and in the spring of 1901, from the 23rd of March till the 9th of April, Horsbrugh found numbers (perhaps fifty or sixty in all) at both Acheritou and Kouklia. He obtained several specimens—one alive, which I kept on the large tank in my garden at Nicosia for some time, till it sought less safety in flight.

At Acheritou the birds began to nest about the 6th of April, but I heard later that owing to the drainage of the water they all left about the beginning of May. This species may not unfairly be regarded as a partial resident, its migration being due, in a large degree, to adverse local conditions. In January 1910, I observed numbers at Kouklia and on the freshwater lake near Famagusta, and in February Horsbrugh also met with the bird at the Limassol salt-lake.

ADDENDA.

Six of the species tabled below are included by Schrader in his paper in the 'Ornithologisches Jahrbuch' (December, 1891), but have never been mentioned by any other observer. Amongst the birds seldom recorded from Cyprus Schrader mentions the Hobby, Pallid and Montagu's Harriers, Barn Owl, Rose-coloured Pastor, Blue Titmouse (probably in error), Palestine Bulbul, Redwing, Ortolan, and Greenfinch.

158. *HYPOLAIS OLIVETORUM* (Strickl.).

It is stated by Schrader that the Olive-tree Warbler comes to the gardens at the beginning of April, but is much rarer than *H. pallida*, the Olivaceous Warbler. This is possibly a trustworthy record.

219. *ACCENTOR MODULARIS* (Linn.).

Schrader states that the Hedge-Sparrow is seen singly in winter. No one else has recorded the bird from Cyprus, and I am inclined to think the account is an error.

289. TICHODROMA MURARIA Linn.

Schrader states that he once saw a pair of Wall-Creepers, and obtained one of them on the rocks near the monastery at Stavrovouni in the Larnaca district.

It is hardly possible that any error could be made with regard to this very striking bird and the locality is one well suited to this Creeper's requirements.

338. LANIUS EXCUBITOR Linn.

Schrader states that he observed some specimens of the Great Grey Shrike at the end of August which he thought were on migration. This is probably a mistake and the birds seen by Schrader were more likely to have been *L. minor*, to which Schrader does not refer.

379. MUSCICAPA COLLARIS Bechstein.

Schrader mentions seeing some on April the 14th, 1877.

Horsbrugh obtained a fine male of the White-collared Flycatcher in a small plantation near Famagusta on April the 13th, 1910, and two days later Mr. Baxendale shot a second in his garden at the same place.

529. EMBERIZA CIA Linn.

Schrader writes that the Meadow Bunting arrives about March the 12th and stays till the end of September, but is rare.

This is possibly a correct record.

737. AQUILA CHRYSÆTUS (Linn.).

Schrader writes that he saw the Golden Eagle several times near Papho, but I have little doubt that the species observed was really *A. heliaca*, the Imperial Eagle.

I have also to add:—

94. CYANECULA SUECICA (Linn.).

A pair of Red-spotted Bluethroats frequented the fresh-water lake at Famagusta after the end of January 1910. Mr. Baxendale secured the female on March the 27th and the male—a superb specimen—on the 31st. This species is probably a rare winter visitor.

877. ERISMATURA LEUCOCEPHALA (Scop.).

A small party of the White-headed Duck frequented Koukulia reservoir at the end of April, and Mr. Baxendale secured two males on May 4th, 1910, through Mr. A. Douglas.

